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Patent  
Attorney's Docket No. 018656-263

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In Patent Application of	)	
Atsushi ISHIKAWA	)	
	)	Group Art Unit: 2622
Application No.: 09/996,786	)	
	)	Examiner: Unassigned
Filed: November 30, 2001	)	
	)	
For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS	)	
	)	
	)	
	)	

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby submits the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed.

The documents are being submitted within 3 months of the filing or entry of the national stage of this application or before the first Office Action on the merits, whichever is later, therefore no fee or statement is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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09/996,786

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November 30, 2001

GROUP
2622

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Foreign Patent Document		Country	Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY)	Translation	
	Number	Kind Code (if known)			Yes	no
	10-098613		Japan	04-14-1998	Abstract Only	
	11-136513		Japan	05-21-1999	Abstract Only	

**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.		
Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.